

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for using a printer embedded service to allow for fail-
2 over operation through automatic rerouting of print jobs to a comparable
3 printer, wherein said method is comprised of the steps of:
4 preparing a print job;
5 forwarding said print job to a first printer;
6 determining if said first printer can complete said print job;
7 employing a printer embedded service to locate a comparable printer if
8 said first printer cannot complete said print job; and
9 transferring said print job to said comparable printer to print said print
10 job.
- 1 2. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said determining step is further
2 comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is out of service.
- 1 3. The method, as in Claim 2, wherein said out of service determining
2 step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is out of paper.
- 1 4. The method, as in Claim 2, wherein said out of service determining
2 step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is out of marking agent.
- 1 5. The method, as in Claim 2, wherein said out of service determining
2 step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is out of a specific type of required
4 media.

1 6. The method, as in Claim 2, wherein said out of service determining
2 step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is jammed.

1 7. The method, as in Claim 2, wherein said out of service determining
2 step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printer is off-line.

1 8. The method, as in Claim 1, wherein said employing step is further
2 comprised of the steps of:
3 using said first printer to communicate with a network directory;
4 using said network directory to locate said comparable printer; and
5 automatically rerouting said print job to said comparable printer.

1 9. The method, as in Claim 8, wherein said network directory is
2 further comprised of:
3 a network directory service which records capabilities of its printing
4 devices as attributes.

1 10. The method, as in Claim 9, wherein said network directory is
2 further comprised of:
3 an X.500 compatible directory service.

1 11. A method for using a printing device embedded service to allow
2 for fail-over operation through automatic rerouting of print jobs to comparable
3 printing devices, wherein said method is comprised of the steps of:
4 preparing a print job;
5 forwarding said print job to a first printing device;
6 determining if said first printing device can complete said print job;
7 employing a printing device embedded service to locate a comparable
8 printing device if said first printing device cannot complete said print job; and
9 printing said print job.

1 12. The method, as in Claim 11, wherein said determining step is
2 further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is out of service.

1 13. The method, as in Claim 12, wherein said out of service
2 determining step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is out of paper.

1 14. The method, as in Claim 12, wherein said out of service
2 determining step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is out of marking agent.

1 15. The method, as in Claim 12, wherein said out of service
2 determining step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is out of a specific type of
4 required media.

1 16. The method, as in Claim 12, wherein said out of service
2 determining step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is jammed.

1 17. The method, as in Claim 12, wherein said out of service
2 determining step is further comprised of the step of:
3 determining if said first printing device is off-line.

1 18. The method, as in Claim 11, wherein said employing step is
2 further comprised of the steps of:
3 using said first printing device to communicate with a network
4 directory;
5 using said network directory to locate said comparable printing device;
6 and
7 automatically rerouting said print job to said comparable printing
8 device.

1 19. The method, as in Claim 18, wherein said network directory is
2 further comprised of:
3 a network directory service which records capabilities of its printing
4 devices as attributes.

1 20. The method, as in Claim 19, wherein said network directory is
2 further comprised of:
3 an X.500 compatible directory service.

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